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## FACSIMILE

Date: April 26, 2002  
Number of pages  
including cover sheet: 33

To:  
Tech Center 3700  
Group Art Unit 3761

Your Ref: 09/680,465  
Phone:  
Fax No. (703) 872-9302

From:  
Karl G. Hanson

Our Ref: 48317US028  
Phone: (651) 736-7776  
Fax No. (651) 736-3833

### Remarks:

Attached are the following:

1. Amendment
2. Amendment Transmittal Letter in duplicate
3. Affidavit of David M. Castiglione
4. Declaration of Robert Betts
5. Declaration of John L. Bowers
6. Affidavit of Frank J. Fabin

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
 3M Innovative Properties Company  
 PO Box 33427  
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427  
 651/733 1500

**PATENT**

Docket No.

48317US028

**Amendment Transmittal Letter**

Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, DC 20231

Inventor(s): Daniel A. Japuntich et al.

Application No. 09/680465

Group Art Unit: 3761

Filed: October 6, 2000

Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis

Title: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK HAVING A NEW UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

- ☒ Enclosed is an amendment in the above-identified application.  
☒ The fee for this amendment is computed as follows:

Claims As Amended						
(1)	(2) Claims Remaining After Amendment	(3)	(4) Highest No. Previously Paid For	(5) Present Extras	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total Claims	45	Minus	** 33	= 12	x \$18.00	= \$216
Independent Claims	3	Minus	*** 3	= 0	x \$84.00	= \$0
Additional fee for filing one or more multiple dependent claims, if no such fee has been previously paid					\$280.00	\$0
Total Additional Fee For This Amendment →						\$216

\*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" in this space would be less than 20, write "20" in this space.

\*\*\* If the "Highest No. previously Paid For" in this space would be less than 3, write "3" in this space.

- ☒ Please charge to Deposit Account 13-3723 any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) that may be necessary. To the extent any such extension should become necessary it is hereby requested.

Registration Number	Telephone Number
32,900	651-736-7776
Date	
April 26, 2002	

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

Printed Name

Karl G. Hanson

Certificate of Transmission	
To Fax No.: 703-872-9302	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:	
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April 26, 2002	Susan M. Dacko
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	Susan M. Dacko

Patent

Case No.: 48317US028

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.  
Application No.: 09/680465 Group Art Unit: 3761  
Filed: October 6, 2000 Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis  
Title: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK HAVING A NEW  
UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVE

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION	
To Fax No.: 703-872-9302	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:	
Date <u>April 26, 2002</u>	Signed by: <u>Susan M. Dacko</u> Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action mailed January 28, 2002. Please amend this application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 33 as follows:

33. A filtering face mask that comprises:

(a) a mask body that is adapted to fit over the nose and mouth of a wearer; and

(b) an exhalation valve that is positioned on the mask body substantially opposite to a wearer's mouth, the exhalation valve comprising:

(1) a valve seat that comprises:

(i) a seal surface;

(ii) an orifice that is circumscribed by the seal surface; and

(iii) cross members that extend across the orifice to create a plurality of openings within the orifice; and

(2) a single flexible flap that has a fixed portion and only one free portion and first and second opposing ends, the first end of the single flexible flap being associated with the fixed portion of the flap so as to remain at rest during an exhalation, and the